

Congressman Secured Federal Funding for 64 Street Lamps

Monticello, NY - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that the installation of 64 street lamps in the Village of Monticello, for which he secured \$90,000 in federal funds, has now been completed. The project is part of a broader effort to beautify various main street corridors in Sullivan County in order to make them more attractive for economic activity.

The congressman also paid special recognition to 19 Delaware Valley Job Corps students who helped install the lights. The students are studying to be electrician assistants under the supervision of instructor Eric Possemato. Hinchey reached out to the Job Corps to assist with the installation saving the Village of Monticello many thousands of dollars.

"It is a pleasure to have helped achieve another significant milestone in the ongoing revitalization of the Broadway corridor," said Hinchey. "Monticello's recently reconstructed streets will now be illuminated by dozens of newly installed street lamps, signifying that the village's downtown corridor is once again open for business. I secured substantial federal funding for this project and worked to arrange for the labor to be done by Delaware Valley Job Corps students who are training to be electricians assistants, saving the Village many thousands of dollars. These students have made a contribution to this community and they deserve our recognition for their service. I thank them for all of their hard work."

Hinchey presented Certificates of Congressional Recognition for Community Service to the 19 students involved with the project. "We are appreciative of all the work the Job Corps students did to help the village," said Monticello Mayor Gordon Jenkins. "By partnering with Job Corps, we saved village taxpayers over \$50,000 and we couldn't have done this without their help."

In 2009, Hinchey secured \$200,000 for the Community Revitalization on the Main Streets Initiative (CRMSI) -- a strategic comprehensive and collaborative effort through Sullivan Renaissance for streetscape enhancements with the core mission of revitalizing main streets in Sullivan County. In addition to the \$90,000 in CRMSI funds used for the street light project, the village contributed over \$20,000 to purchase materials and hire McDowall Electric to supervise and coordinate the installation of the lights. Sandra Gerry, Chair of Sullivan Renaissance, managed the project from start to finish.